

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

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-----009908 031435Z /50

R 031118Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8764
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ALGIERS 1954

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, AG
SUBJECT: PROPOSED CONTAINER TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT
TRADE MISSION

REF: STATE 143167

ATHENS FOR RTDO

1. EMBASSY CONCURS WITH ITINERARIES PROPOSED PARA 5 REFTEL.
 2. USING AVAILABLE INFORMATION, EMBASSY'S ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED PARA 4 REFTEL ARE AS FOLLOWS (ANSWERS KEYED TO QUESTIONS):
 - A. ALGERIA'S OFFICE NATIONAL DES PORTS (ONP) ADMINISTERS AND OPERATES MORE THAN 200 SHIP BERTHS, 130 HECTARES (HA) OF OPEN STORAGE AREA, 23 HA OF STORAGE SHEDS OF VARIOUS TYPES AND SIZES, 85 KM RAILROAD TRACKS, PLUS SPECIALIZED FACILITIES SUCH AS WINE STORAGE, GRAIN SILOS AND DRY DOCKS. SPECIFICALLY: PORT OF ALGIERS-ONE SILO CAPACITY 25,000 MT, SEVERAL LARGE WINE STORAGE FACILITIES, 332 WAREHOUSES;
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PORT OF ANNABA - ONE SILO CAPACITY 16,000 MT,
ONE WINE STORAGE FACILITY 28,000 HECTOLITER
CAPACITY;
PORT OF ORAN - ONE SILO 30,000 MT CAPACITY,
THREE WINE STORAGE FACILITIES 14/15,000 HECTOLITER
CAPACITY, 47 COMMERCIAL WAREHOUSES;
MOSTAGANEM - ONE SUGAR SILO 15,000 MT CAPACITY,

ONE WINE STORAGE 27,000 HECTOLITER CAPACITY;
GHAZAOUET - TWO WINE STORAGE 22,000 AND
5,000 HECTOLITER CAPACITY, AND
SKIDA - ONE SILO 22,000 MT CAPACITY, ONE
WINE STORAGE 15,000 HECTOLITER CAPACITY.

B. TERMINAL STORAGE AREA AS FOLLOWS:

ALGIERS - 62 HA OPEN STORAGE, 97,000 M2
COVERED;

ANNABA - 28 HA OPEN STORAGE;

ORAN - 11 HA OPEN STORAGE, 48,554 M2
COVERED.

GHAZAOUET - 3.5 HA OPEN STORAGE, 3500 M2
COVERED;

BENI-SAF - 1.3 HA OPEN STORAGE, 1,885 M2
COVERED;

ARZEW - 7 HA OPEN STORAGE, 1,584 M2 COVERED;

MOSTAGANEM - 3,5 HA OPEN STORAGE, 19,700 M2
COVERED;

TENES - 17,370 M2 OPEN STORAGE, 10,159 M2
COVERED;

BEJAIA - 5 HA OPEN STORAGE, 18,273 M2
COVERED;

DJIDJEL - 20,000 M2 OPEN STORAGE;

SIKDA - 6.7 HA USABLE OPEN STORAGE, 10,253 M2
COVERED.

C. NUMBER AND CAPACITY OF SHORESIDE CRANES AND OTHER
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HEAVY LIFT CRANES:

ALGIERS - 75 CRANES AND 2 FLOATING CRANES,
CAPACITY RANGING FROM 85 - 400MT;

ORAN - 29 CRANES OF 3 6 MT CAPACITY, 19 MOBILE
CRANES, ONE FLOATING CRANE 100 MT CAPACITY,
ONE "OTHER CRANE" 30 MT CAPACITY;

GHAZAOUET - TWO TEN TON CRANES;

BENI-SAF - ONE BELT CONVEYOR 300 TON/HOUR CAPACITY;

MOSTAGANEM - 5 CRANES 4 12 MT CAPACITY;

BEJAIA - ONE 5.5 MT CRANE, ONE "FIXED ARM" CRANE
100 MT CAPACITY, ONE "FIXED LOADING
APPARATUS";

SIKDA - 8 CRANES 3 - 6 MT CAPACITY, ONE
FLOATING CRANE 100 MT CAPACITY;

ANNABA - 17 CRANES 3 - 6 MT CAPACITY, 8 BRIDGE
CRANES 110 MT CAPACITY, ONE "FIXED
ARM" CRANE 110 MT CAPACITY.

D. DRAFT LIMITATIONS:

ALGIERS - DEPTHS OF BERTHS VARY BETWEEN 5 AND
11.5 METERS;

ORAN - BETWEEN 4 - 12 METERS;

ARZEW - BETWEEN 4 - 28 METERS;

MOSTAGANEM - BETWEEN 4 - 9 METERS ;

TENES - BETWEEN 6 - 7 METERS;

BEJAIA - BETWEEN 5.3 - 13 METERS;

DJIDJEL - BETWEEN 4 - 8 METERS;

SKIKDA - BETWEEN 6 - 14 METERS;

ANNABA - BETWEEN 4 - 13 METERS.

E. EMBASSY NOT ENTIRELY SURE WHAT IS MEANT BY
"MAJOR SOPHISTICATED EXISTING YARD EQUIPMENT". WE
SUSPECT THAT IN TODAYS WORLD ANSWER SHOULD BE "NONE,
APART FROM GAS AND OIL LOADING EQUIPMENT". THE NEW
PORT OF ARZEW HAS A MYRIAD OF SOPHISTICATED EQUIP-
MENT, BUT IT IS ALL FOR THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY
AND DOES NOT APPEAR TO RELATE TO THE SUBJECT OF
THIS MISSION.

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FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8765

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ALGIERS 1954

ATHENS FOR RTDO

F. MAJOR CONSUMING CITIES ARE ALSO PORTS, WITH
EXCEPTION OF CONSTANTINE, WHICH IS LESS THAN 100 KM
FROM ANNABA.

G. THERE ARE NO NAVIGABLE INLAND WATERWAYS.

H. RAILWAY AND HIGHWAY CONNECTIONS TO PORTS RANGE

FROM ADEQUATE TO GOOD. WITHIN THE PORTS THERE IS A TOTAL OF 85 KM OF RAILROAD TRACKS, INCLUDING: ALGIERS, 30 KM; ORAN, 16 KM; SKIKDA, 11 KM; GHAZAOUET, 8.5 KM; MOSTAGANEM, 3.5 KM; BEJAIA, 5 KM; AND ANNABA, 10 KM.

I. CURRENTLY, DREDGING IS UNDER WAY AT THE PORTS OF GHAZAOUET, SKIKDA AND EL KALA; CONSTRUCTION OF WHARFS AND PIERS IS UNDER WAY AT THE PORTS OF BENI SAF, EL KALA AND ARZEW, AND REINFORCEMENT OF WHARFS AND PIERS IS UNDER WAY AT THE PORTS OF ALGIERS, ORAN, ANNABA AND MOSTAGANEM. THERE IS MAJOR PORT EXPANSION PLANNED FOR DJIDJEL, IN WHICH THE IBRD IS PARTICIPATING. THE KEY PORTS OF ALGIERS AND ORAN ARE BOTH LOCATED IN THE CENTER OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CITIES, AND SIGNIFICANT EXPANSIONS ARE NOT POSSIBLE. THERE HAS BEEN SOME TALK OF BUILDING A NEW MAJOR PORT FOR ALGIERS JUST
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EAST OF THE CITY, BUT THIS HAS NOT PROGRESSED MUCH BEYOND TALKING STAGE.
J. LEVEL OF TRAINING OF PORT WORKERS IS GENERALLY LOW.
K. PORT WORKER ATTITUDES TOWARD MECHANIZATION IS GENERALLY NEGATIVE.
L. LOCAL PORT WORKER TRAINING FACILITIES ARE INADEQUATE. WORKER TRAINING OFTEN DOES NOT CONFORM TO JOB REQUIREMENTS.
M. THE IMPORT/EXPORT TRENDS FOR GENERAL CARGO FOR THE PST FIVE YEARS HAS BEEN MORE OR LESS FLAT, PERHAPS INCREASING BY TOTAL OF 10 15 PERCENT. THE EMBASSY SUSPECTS THIS TREND WILL CONTINUE FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS.
N. FOR DISCUSSION OF ALGERIAN PORT DEVELOPMENT PLANS, EMBASSY SUGGESTS USDOC CONTACT IBRD DESK OFFICER FOR ALGERIA IN WASHINGTON. IT ALSO WOULD BE PROFITABLE FOR USDOC TO CONTACT MR. THOMAS SOULES, WHO HEADED 1977 PORT DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR. MR. SOULES HAS HAD SUBSEQUENT CONTACTS WITH ALGERIAN PORT OFFICIALS AND PROBABLY CAN DISCUSS ALGERIAN PORT SITUATION MUCH MORE KNOWLEDGABLY THAN CAN EMBASSY.
O. MAPS NOT AVAILABLE.HAYNES

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